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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP 3652  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tsutomu SAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/170,225

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Known

Group Art Unit: 3652

Filed: October 13, 1998

Examiner: S. McAllister

For: FEED BELT

RECEIVED  
OCT 31 2001  
Group 2100

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

RECEIVED  
OCT 29 2001  
GROUP 3600

ATTN: BOX AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 24, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A feed belt comprising:

an elastic material; and

high hardness particles dispersed throughout the elastic material,

characterized in that the high hardness particles project from a feed surface, where the projecting amount of said high hardness particles increases with the elasticity of the elastic